

22.04.2022
SL No. 347
Court No. 24
GB

**In The High Court At Calcutta
Constitutional Writ Jurisdiction
Appellate Side**

WPA 19994 of 2021

**Sakuntala Sarkar
Vs
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

Mr. Krishna Pada Santra
... for the petitioner
Ms. Sipra Mazumder.
... for the State

Affidavit-of-service filed in Court today is taken on record.

The husband of the petitioner was a Primary Teacher of a Primary School. He retired on 31.10.2011 and died on 12.01.2021. On 20.03.2012 the Pension Payment Order was issued in favour of the husband of the petitioner and the teacher received the arrear pension amount on 07.05.2012.

The petitioner, being the widow, prays for interest on account of the delayed payment of the terminal benefits.

In the present case it is noticed that the petitioner has approached this Court long after the Pension Payment Order was issued and payment made in accordance with the same.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Union of India -vs- Tarsem Singh reported in (2008) 8 SCC 648 clearly laid down that in so far as consequential

relief of recovery of arrear for a past period is concerned the relief shall be restricted only to a period of three years prior to the filing of the writ petition or from the date of demand made by the petitioner.

In the instant case the teacher did not raise any demand before the respondents praying for release of interest on account of delay in making payment. The widow directly approached this Court praying for interest, that too, long after the PPO was issued and payment received by her deceased husband.

The conduct of the teacher implies that he waived his right to claim interest on account of the delayed payment of his terminal benefits.

There is no explanation given with regard to the inordinate delay in filing the writ petition.

In view of the above, the Court is not inclined to exercise jurisdiction in the matter and grant any relief in favour of the petitioner.

The writ petition is dismissed.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order be supplied to the parties, if applied for, as early as possible.

(Amrita Sinha, J.)